

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claim 17 has been canceled, claims 1-7 and 10-16 have been amended, and new claims 18 and 19 have been added. Thus, claims 1-7, 10-16, 18 and 19 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

In the Office Action mailed November 7, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 2-7 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 17 has been canceled and claims 2-7 have been amended responsive to this rejection. If any additional amendment is necessary to overcome this rejection, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 USC § 102(e), as being anticipated by Wilson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,118,603, hereinafter, "Wilson"). The Office Action includes comments directed to claims 2-7 and 9-16, but does not assert a specific rejection of these claims. Nevertheless, claims 2-7 and 9-16 are addressed hereinbelow. It is noted that claim 17 has been canceled and claims 1-7 and 10-16 have been amended. To the extent that the rejection remains applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicants hereby traverse the rejection, as follows.

The Applicants submit that Wilson neither discloses nor suggests at least the combination of a plurality of detecting units being provided at each bit position of the parallel data, the detecting units being adapted to detect whether strings of bits continuing from each bit position as a starting point are the predetermined mark; and

wherein any one of the detecting units detects the predetermined mark, as recited in claims 1 and 10, as amended.

For at least this reason, the Applicants submit that claims 1 and 10, as amended, are allowable over Wilson. As claims 1 and 10 are allowable, the Applicants submit that claims 2-7, and 9, as well as new claims 18 and claim 19, which depend from allowable claims 1 and 10, respectively, are likewise allowable.

Also, similarly to as discussed above with regard to claims 1 and 10, the Applicants submit that claim 11, as amended, is allowable over Wilson at least because Wilson does not disclose or suggest at least the combination of receiving a series of data including a predetermined mark for detecting synchronization; generating a parallel data from the series of data; detecting the predetermined mark for detecting synchronization from any one of strings of bits continuing from each bit position of the parallel data to establish synchronization of the series of data; and demodulating the series of data based on the predetermined mark for detecting synchronization detected from one of the bit strings, as recited in claim 11, as amended.

For at least this reason, the Applicants submit that claim 11, as amended, is allowable over Wilson. As claim 11 is allowable, the Applicants submit that claims 12-16, which depend from allowable claim 11, are likewise allowable.

Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending patentability distinguish the present invention from the cited references.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing docket no. 024016-00008.

Respectfully submitted,


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